Implementation of Abhijit Sen Panel's Recommendations

935. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 1662 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st August, 2002 and state:

(a) whether Government have since examined the suggestions of Sen Panel in its report on efficient food management on a long-term grain policy; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) and (b) The High Level Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Prof. Abhijit Sen to formulate a Long Term Grain Policy has submitted its report on 31st July, 2002.

The Committee's recommendations carry wide remifications, requiring consultation with concerned Ministries/Departments and with State Governments which are in progress

Purchase of rice by FCI

936. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed by the Food Corporation of India for purchasing rice this year and the actual procurement level; and

(b) the details of the action taken to construct new godowns at all procurement points to save rotting of paddy and purchase all available stocks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) Procurement of paddy under price support scheme is totally voluntary in nature as the producers have the option to sell their produce to FCI/ State procuring agencies at MSP or in the open market as is